

## Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, OAS

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF ADDRESSES BY MEXICAN MINISTER OF  
EDUCATION VICTOR BRAVO AHUJA AND OAS SECRETARY GENERAL  
GALO PLAZA AT INAUGURAL SESSION OF SIXTH MEETING OF  
INTER-AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE  
(CIECC), JANUARY 27

1. SUMMARY OF MINISTER'S SPEECH: THE MINISTER OF  
EDUCATION REFERRED TO THE PROBLEMS FACING THE COUNTRIES OF  
THE HEMISPHERE IN IMPLEMENTING AN INTEGRATED AND COMPRE-  
HENSIVE CULTURAL POLICY; CRITICIZED THE CONSEQUENCES OF  
WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS THE MANIPULATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL  
DEVELOPMENT TO THE ADVANTAGE OF THE HIGHLY DEVELOPED  
COUNTRIES; AND EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR A BASIC RESTRUC-  
TURING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE,  
EDUCATION, AND CULTURE TO ENABLE IT TO PROPERLY MEET  
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THESE PROBLEMS.

2. HE EMPHASIZED THAT IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL THE NATIONS OF THE HEMISPHERE, LARGE AND SMALL, TO SEEK HARMONY THROUGH AN EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF CULTURAL BENEFITS AT ALL LEVELS OF SOCIETY, WHICH HE SAID HAS BEEN LACKING BECAUSE OF THE DIVISION BETWEEN THOSE WHO DOMINATE AND THOSE WHO ARE DOMINATED. HE STATED THAT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, EDUCATION, AND CULTURE MUST BE FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL THE PEOPLE, AND NOT AN INSTRUMENT OF SUBJUGATION.

HE SAID THAT NOTHING WOULD BE GAINED FROM INDUSTRIALIZATION AND TECHNOLOGY IF IT CONTINUED TO BE DIRECTED TOWARD BENEFITING AND GIVING PREFERENCE TO THOSE WHO HAVE AND CONTINUE TO HAVE. JUSTICE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED MORE RAPIDLY WHEN THERE IS A CHANGE IN THE PRESENT SYSTEM IN WHICH BASIC RAW PRODUCTS ARE OBTAINED FROM THE LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WHICH PRODUCE THEM, AND THE RESULTING PRODUCTS OF THE HIGHLY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES ARE SOLD IN RETURN AT A HIGH PROFIT.

3. HE URGED GREATER EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INTEGRATION THROUGHOUT THE HEMISPHERE, AND A PROPER RECOGNITION OF THE INDIGENOUS AND NATIONAL CULTURAL VALUES OF EACH COUNTRY. HE REFERRED TO THE NATIONAL PROGRAM OF MEXICO TO PRESERVE THE INDIGENOUS CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC HERITAGE OF THE COUNTRY. HE CALLED ATTENTION TO THE EFFORTS OF THE PRESIDENT OF MEXICO TO SEEK NEW ROADS TO UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE NATIONS OF THE HEMISPHERE, MENTIONING AS ONE OF THE FRUITS OF HIS EFFORTS THE APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STATES. HE ALSO MENTIONED THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN MEXICO AND CUBA, JAMAICA, VENEZUELA, AND COSTA RICA TO PROMOTE CULTURAL RELATIONS.

4. THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION CALLED SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE ATTENDANCE AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE MEETING BY THE PRESIDENT OF MEXICO AND OTHER HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AS EVIDENCE OF THE GREAT IMPORTANCE OF THIS MEETING TO THEM AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THE HEMISPHERE. HE ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO THE PRESENCE

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OF THE U.S. SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE, WEINBERGER, AT THE MEETING, AND STATED THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME A PERSON OF SUCH HIGH RANK IN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS ATTENDED ONE OF THESE MEETINGS; AN INDICATION, HE SAID, OF THE IMPORTANCE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ALSO ATTACHED TO THIS MEETING IN MEXICO CITY.

5. SUMMARY OF GALO PLAZA'S SPEECH: SECRETARY GENERAL

PLAZA BEGAN HIS SPEECH WITH LENGTHY PRAISE OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE CULTURE AND TO QTE DEFEND MEXICO'S-CULTURAL VALUES; END QTE HE COMPLIMENTED HIGHLY M S. ECHEVERRIA'S QTE EMBASSY OF CULTURE AND ART. END QTE. THE LATTER WAS A REFERENCE TO MRS. ECHEVERRIA'S ORGANIZING A GROUP OF ARTISTS, WHOM SHE IS LEADING ON A MONTH-LONG TOUR OF FIVE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES--INCLUDING CUBA, JAMAICA, PANAMA, COSTA RICA AND VENEZUELA.

6. PLAZA ALSO PRAISED MEXICO'S STRONG SUPPORT OF QTE INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT END QTE, AND THEIR SUPPORT

TO THE MAR DEL PLATA SPECIAL PROJECTS PROGRAM. (MEXICO PAID IN ADVANCE A BIT MORE THAN ITS FULL QUOTA.)

7. TURNING TO THE OAS REGIONAL PROGRAMS, PLAZA STATED: QTE IN THESE MOMENTS IN WHICH INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS FIND THEMSELVES AT THE POINT OF PROVING THEMSELVES, IT IS EVEN MORE NECESSARY TO CEMENT COLLABORATION BETWEEN LATIN AMERICA AND THE UNITED STATES, THROUGH CONCRETE PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE THE ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT OF THIS REGION. THE REGIONAL PROGRAMS OF THE COUNCIL, THROUGH THEIR DEMONSTRATED CAPACITY TO STRENGTHEN AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SCIENTIFIC, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE, ARE IMPORTANT FOR THE FUTURE OF THE REGION. END QTE

8. PLAZA STATED THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD SPEAK IN TERMS OF REAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS, RATHER THAN OF MERE POTENTIAL, INDICATING THAT MANY PROBLEMS OF EARLIER YEARS HAVE BEEN OVERCOME. WHILE OVERALL OAS PROGRAMS HAVE INCREASED SOME 300 PER CENT, PROGRAMS IN EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE HAVE GROWN SOME 1,000 PER CENT. TODAY THESE PROGRAMS CONSTITUTE A PRINCIPAL AREA OF IMPORTANCE TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ORGANIZATION.

9. HE COMMENTED THAT, SIMILARLY, DEVELOPMENT THEORIES HAD CHANGED. EARLIER THEY HAD CONCENTRATED ON GROWTH IN REAL NATIONAL INCOME AS THE INDISPENSIBLE PREREQUISITE TO IMPROVING LIVING CONDITIONS. IN THE SEVENTIES, HOWEVER, THEY CONSIDERED THAT SUCH GROWTH SHOULD MEAN PROGRESS FROM POVERTY TO SOMETHING BETTER. THIS QUALITATIVE DIMENSION EXPLAINED WHY IN THE SEVENTIES ECONOMIC-SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BECAME INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT. OTHER ASPECTS, SUCH AS NEW HUMAN RESOURCE NEEDS, EDUCATION, AND DEFENSE OF CULTURAL VALUES WERE EMPHASIZED.

10. HE POINTED TO PLEDGES TO THE MAR DEL PLATA SPECIAL PROJECTS PROGRAM AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF SUCH INTEREST.

HE STATED THAT QTE FOR THE FIRST TIME THE PLEDGES OF LATIN  
AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS WERE GREATER THAN THE COUNTERPART  
PLEDGE OF THE UNITED STATES. END QTE HE STATED THAT QTE  
I DO NOT DOUBT THAT DEMONSTRATION OF INTEREST IN THE MAR  
DEL PLATA PROGRAMS WILL BE AN INCENTIVE FOR THE UNITED  
STATES TO INCREASE ITS SUPPORT ACCORDINGLY TO TAKE  
ADVANTAGE OF THE TOTAL OF THE LATIN AMERICAN PLEDGES.  
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